

camp between Saxons and Bavarians,
 between the
 partisans of the Hohenstaufen and the
 Welfs, to
 add to Italy's ungracious reception.

Meanwhile Roger made every effort
 against the
 attack which was thus drawing home,
 The siege
 of Naples had continued all through
 the close of
 1136 and was carried into the new
 year. The

Magister Militum and his most devoted
 partisans,
 "mindful of the former independence of
 their city
 and the glory of their ancestors, had
 sworn to die
 of hunger rather than place the neck
 under yoke
 of so detestable a King." Rainulf
 himself had
 got out of the city and joined the
 Emperor or* his
 march southward,

Roger was awake to the need of
 securing his
 frontiers against the German deluge;
 his border
 fortresses were doubly manned and
 fortified, But
 as Lothar still moved south into Apulia,
 the royal
 commanders were isolated and
 overwhelmed;
 their loyalty was generally punished
 with a bar-
 barity not less severe than that of their
 own King,
 Castel Pagano, north-west of Monte
 Gargano,
 was surrendered by its inhabitants; the
 Norman
 fortress had to yield, and its
 commander
 blinded by Lothar's orders, Monte
 Gargano and
 Siponto fell before the German attack;

the
of Troia, Cann®, and Barletta falling on
the in-
vaders were repulsed, and the

or
mutilated; from Melfi the people fled,
and at
Trani they welcomed Lothar with joy* a
Norman fleet of thirty-three ships
tried to